

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The rich cultural heritage of the Lone Star State is a reflection of our diverse and storied population and remarkable history. Since our state's inception, people of all backgrounds, from lands near and far, have come to call Texas home, adding to the tapestry of cultures that make our state unique. As we celebrate and embrace our heritage as Texans, we must remember the vital role these traditions and cultures have played in building the Texas we know and love today.

For generations, Texas has been deeply and uniquely influenced by the contributions of individuals of Hispanic descent. Long before the days of revolution and independence, the people and cultures of Mexico and of what was then known as *Tejas* were inextricably linked, and we are fortunate to enjoy the fruits of that shared history to this day. From the rich flavors found in traditional cuisines, to the fusion of cultures heard in the distinct melodies of Tejano music, trademarks of Hispanic influence shine throughout the Lone Star State.

It is important to recognize the indelible impact of Hispanic Texans on the culture, economy, and history of the Lone Star State. Hispanic-Americans and individuals of Hispanic descent continue to play important roles in Texas, forging new frontiers across our society, from education and the humanities to business and medicine. Texas is proud to be one of the most welcoming states for Hispanic entrepreneurs, leading the nation for jobs created by Hispanic women business owners and ranking among the top states for Hispanic-owned businesses and the jobs these businesses create. In addition, I am especially proud that my wife Cecilia is the first Hispanic First Lady of Texas.

Across our nation, a month is dedicated to recognizing the heritage, culture, and contributions of the Hispanic-American community. At this time, I encourage all Texans to celebrate and learn more about the rich heritage of Hispanic Texans and to remember the importance of embracing our diversity while reinforcing the bonds that unite us as Texans and as Americans.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 15 to October 15, 2021, to be

Hispanic Heritage Month

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

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